

Senator Moore, it's not a creative way of funding a project, it's the natural way to fund this project. It's a recycling program, and we are going to state recycling efforts to continue funding. When asked the question, what were these funds used for, no one in the State Department of Roads or other places had any idea. It was kind of a mystery how these funds were used. So I guess at least if we do use the funds for a proper reason, recycling, that maybe we will then find out what the funds were used for when they come back and ask for them. And it might be good for them to decide where that money was going in the first place. So I think a little accountability would be called for here. As I said, it's a natural flow of recycling money into a recycling effort. And, again, we must look at the long-term picture of costs on recycling. You're not necessarily going to get your money back right away. But once we slowly move into this area, the benefits we receive will be long-term, and I believe will pay off in the long-term. I'd urge support of the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Is there anyone else who wishes to discuss this bill? Seeing no one, Senator Rod Johnson, do you wish to close?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes, just briefly. Some questions have been asked of me, because of the investigation of the audit that's being done on the recycling program right now, is there need for the funds? And the answer is, yes, the program is still ongoing and will continue to be ongoing. And I would ask that that not deter this particular bill from being advanced today. There are still a lot of questions unanswered in that particular area that I hope we would not rush to judgment until those questions have been answered. But, in the meantime, I'd like to see the bill advanced today. I think it sets up, as Senator Morrissey said, the proceeds from recycling efforts should go to the recycling program. And I think that's the proper way to fund it. And we have been trying to do that with waste paper, unfortunately, it's not worked because of the fluctuation of the reimbursement of selling waste paper. So we're looking at alternative recycling ways of generating dollars. So I'd move advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER BAACK: You've heard Senator Rod Johnson's closing. We will now vote on the advancement of LB 429. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.